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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/822,396	04/12/2004	Guy Coulon	886-011760-US (PAR)	2900
2512	7590	06/13/2005	EXAMINER	
PERMAN & GREEN 425 POST ROAD FAIRFIELD, CT 06824			GUSHI, ROSS N	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2833	

DATE MAILED: 06/13/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/822,396

Applicant(s)

COULON, GUY

Examiner

Ross N. Gushi

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 5/3/03
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 2-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 2-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

Claims 2- 23 are objected to under 37 C.F.R. Rule 1.75(d)(1). **The terms and the phrases used in the claims must find clear support or antecedent basis in the description so that the meaning of the terms in the claims may be ascertainable by reference to the description.** As far as the examiner can tell the applicant is using terms in the claims to mean structures completely different from the way the terms were used in the specification and is using terms in the claims not used in the specification. For example the body was identified with reference number 1 in the specification, whereas in the claims it is completely unclear what might be the body. The first, second, and third cylindrical portions were not even identified in the specification. The housing identified with reference number 11 in the specification is apparently being used in the claims to identify something else completely, but what that might be is unknown. Where or what is the "aperture for the housing?" These are merely examples. Correction is required throughout the claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 2-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which

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was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. In particular, a part including a "housing axially positioned in the body" where the body comprises a first, second, and "third cylindrical portion that surrounds said housing" and includes "an aperture for the housing" and further including the annular crown as claimed was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. As understood by the examiner, no such third cylindrical portion was disclosed or aperture for the housing was disclosed.

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 2-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. It is impossible to determine what applicant is attempting to claim. Applicant claims a part including a "housing axially positioned in the body" where the body comprises a first, second, and "third cylindrical portion that surrounds said housing" and includes "an aperture for the housing" and further including the annular crown. As understood by the examiner, the housing 11 is surrounded by first the contact clips 3 and next the protective sleeve 4 (see figure 1). What is the third cylindrical portion? What or where is the "aperture for the housing?" Further adding to the uncertainty, applicant argues that "At least a pair of contact clips 3 are attached to annular crown 31 which surrounds the cylindrical portion 12 that encloses the housing

11.” How can this be reconciled with what is shown in applicant’s figure 1 where portion 12 is a solid body and housing 11 is a hollow cylindrical body adjacent solid body 12.

“The clips are constructed with radially inward extending contact ends 33 that engage the male contacting element 2 through the cylindrical portion 12.” Figure 1 does not show the tab ends 33 anywhere near portion 12. The preceding are merely examples and the examiner has not attempted to list all of the ambiguities apparent in claim 1.

Given that the examiner cannot make any sense of claim 1, much less how the dependent claims further limit claim 1, for purposes of analysis, claims 1-22 are analyzed as claiming male and female contact parts including a contact clip including tabs in the female part.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 2-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bilezikjian. Per claims 2-23, Bilezikjian discloses male 12 and female 10 contact parts including a contact clip 30 including tabs 34 in the female part. Claimed variations of the device as taught in Bilezikjian would have been obvious at the time of the invention.

Response to Arguments

Applicant’s arguments have been considered. Applicant argues regarding the invention that “at least a pair of contact clips 3 are attached to annular crown 31 which

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surrounds the cylindrical portion 12 that encloses the housing 11.” Remarks page 9.

How can this be reconciled with what is shown in applicant’s figure 1? How does portion 12 enclose housing 11? “The clips are constructed with radially inward extending contact ends 33 that engage the male contacting element 2 through the cylindrical portion 12.” Remarks page 9. Figure 1 does not show the tab ends 33 anywhere near portion 12 and how could male contacting element or the tab ends 33 go through portion 12 which is disclosed as a solid body (see figure 1). The examiner cannot understand what applicant is arguing. Regarding the rejection on the art, the examiner has no comment because the claimed part was not enabled and it is not clear what is being claimed.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

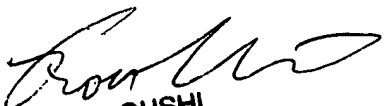
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

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the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ross Gushi whose telephone number is (571) 272-2005. If attempts to reach the examiner by phone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula A. Bradley, can be reached at 571-272-2800 extension 33. The phone number for the Group's facsimile is (703) 872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


ROSS GUSHI
PRIMARY EXAMINER